

25th October, 1926.

My dear Friend,

I much regret to hear that you never received the letter which I sent you from the Tyrol. Yours which you wrote to me at Venice reached me safely.

My experiences as soon as I left you, were not altogether very splendid ones, as hardly had you and my brother left me, than I fell very ill at Venice and had to give up my journey to the Habrian towns. I was sent by the Doctor high up into the Tyrolean mountains, near Bolzano. Later on I was able to do some studies for myself there, which gave me great pleasure now to possess.

We went home via Zurich and saw our sons, then before starting my work here, we spent another week up in Scotland with friends. I have only just got back and am obliged to leave for Paris, where I shall be staying with the Duc de Gramont for three weeks, painting various portraits. My wife will accompany me there for a week.

As I have already told you - I ought to have gone to Madrid and Lisbon to paint for the Royal family and the British Ambassador at Madrid and also at Lisbon.

To day, however, I had the pleasure of being received by the Queen of Spain, who is at present over here, and arranged with her to go out to Spain at the end of January next year, instead of just now, as I must settle down and concentrate myself on my work here, which I do not wish to neglect.

The boys are all well - Patrick writes glorious letter from Hamburg that he is already typing all the English correspondence.

With Henry we have difficulties, as he wishes to marry in December, but we still hope that he will postpone it, as we have told him that we shall not take any notice of it.

I never would have thought that any girl would have been able to get such intense influence over him, as to make him neglect his vocation!

Otherwise we are all well - we cannot always have sunshine - I am also very distressed about my brother's affairs - but I do hope these clouds will soon disperse.

I am returning you the article which I think is splendid - you have an excellent memory. You will notice that I have made just a few alterations.

Looking forward to hearing from you and

With best greetings from us both.

Always